

## **10.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

A primary and secondary means of communications shall be identified and used by PMC and PMC Subcontractor employees while working at RMA. Methods of communicating to emergency services are required for all site personnel. Methods for communicating among site personnel or work crews at remediation or construction worksites are required. Listed below are the communications methods to be used. These methods shall be identified, modified, or augmented if necessary in the task-specific HASP based on actual site conditions.

### **10.1 Administrative and Management Support Personnel**

Administrative and management support personnel will be working primarily in trailers or offices with dedicated phone systems. Phones will be used as the primary form of communication with emergency services. Secondary or backup communications available are the fire pull stations located at most facilities, use of motor vehicles, or cellular phones.

### **10.2 Field Site Personnel**

#### **10.2.1 Communication with Fire and Emergency Services**

Central Dispatch coordinates response actions with Fire and Emergency Services (FES) and can be reached by radio (channel 1), on-site phone (911), or cellular phone (303 289-0911). Personnel working at field sites lacking dedicated phone systems will use radios or cellular phones as the primary form of communications with Central Dispatch and FES. The PMC or RVO will provide at least one radio to each Subcontractor who will use the assigned PMC frequency (the currently assigned frequency is channel 7). Cellular phones and radios shall be tested before field operations begin to ensure that they perform adequately between the site location and Central Dispatch, located at the RMA Fire Station. If radios are used as the primary form of communications, a base station at the field site trailer(s) or Central Dispatch must be continuously manned during times of active field operations.

Secondary or backup communications systems available are portable fire pull stations (may be located at or near the field site), radios, cellular phones, or motor vehicles.

#### **10.2.2 Buddy System**

Use of the buddy system is required for all PMC Subcontractor field work. The buddy system shall ensure that field work is organized such that each worker is designated to be observed by at least one other worker, and the workers keep watch on the safety, security, and emergency needs of one another. Normally, the buddy system requires assignment of at least 2 workers to conduct field activities. The PMC Health and Safety Manager may exempt low-hazard work from this requirement. Exempted work shall be noted in the task-specific HASP and/or documented using FCR process.

#### **10.2.3 Communication Among Field Site Personnel**

**Radios** - Radios are used as appropriate by field teams for communication with the site support facilities or command post.

**Air Horns** - Air horns shall be carried by field teams or be strategically located at the field site. Air horns shall be maintained as the means for announcing emergency evacuation (10-second steady blast of the air horn) and assembly at a predetermined safe area.

**Hand Signals** - Hand signals shall be used by field teams, along with the buddy system, to ensure that potential emergency situations are communicated to all site personnel. The entire field team shall become familiar with the hand signals used before operations commence and their hand signal use shall be covered during site-specific training. Typical hand signals to be used are shown in Figure 10-1.

**Figure 10-1 Typical Hand Signals**

SIGNAL	MEANING
Hand gripping throat	Out of air, can't breathe
Grip on a partner's wrist or placement of both hands around a partner's waist.	Leave the area immediately, no debate.
Hands on top of head	Need assistance
Thumbs up	Okay, I'm all right, I understand.
Thumbs down	No, negative.
Raised arm, clenched fist	Stop.